NOTES

1. Papers selected for inclusion in General Sessions will be available at the Conference in the following official languages of the United Nations: English, French, Russian and Spanish.

2. Papers selected for inclusion in Specialized Sessions will be available at the Conference in only one of the above official languages.

3. Summaries of all papers, as submitted by contributors, will be available at the Conference in the following official languages of the United Nations: English, French, Russian and Spanish.

4. Papers and summaries will not be available for general distribution in advance of the Conference. They will be published in advance in limited quantities only for the use of delegations of participating governments and of other authorized participants. Post-Conference publication and general distribution of the Conference Proceedings will follow United Nations practices as laid down by the United Nations Publications Board.

UTILISATION OF UNUSED PROTEIN RESOURCES FOR HUMAN FEEDING

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Dietary protein deficiency is a growing problem in a number of developing countries, particularly those in tropical and sub-tropical areas, where population is increasing rapidly and protein food resources are meagre. Prolonged malnutrition experienced early in life, and particularly protein deprivation, may cause irreversible impairment to human physical and mental fitness with cumulative detrimental effects on the vigour and productivity of populations. Since protein malnutrition affects most seriously infants, children and pregnant and lactating mothers, the United Nations agencies, WHO, FAO and UNICEF, are sponsoring a programme of technical and material assistance to governments to meet this need. To supplement milk supplies and to provide long-range answers to this problem, increasing emphasis is being given to the utilization of economical local protein resources which have not been employed to any significant extent in human feeding. These include cottonseed, peanut, soybean, sesame, coconut and fish flours. Some of these products are already in use in mixed protein-rich foods.

Current programme emphasis in a number of countries is on recipe development, product formulation, and acceptability testing of protein-supplemented mixtures to suit specific local food tastes. In the technological sphere, the work involves testing and evaluation of new foods, development and formulation of food quality and processing guides, and sponsorship of training programmes for individuals involved in national schemes for development and production of protein-rich foods. UNICEF and FAO are now co-operating with the governments of several developing countries in the installation of suitable processing facilities adapted to their technological needs and food habits, as well as in efforts to promote popular acceptance of these new foods.

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